

Testimony of
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Education Committee

March 4, 2022

Senate Bill (Raised) 229, An Act Concerning the Charter School Approval Process

Dear Representative Sanchez and Senator McCrory and members of the Education Committee:

I am Mary Consoli, a resident of Danbury. CT for 48 years, I am writing to ask you to oppose Senate Bill Raised No. 229, An Act Concerning the Charter School Approval Process.

The goal of modern education is to focus on ensuring that children would be problem solvers, decision makers, and enablers. Students need to leave school with life skills in reading and math that help them navigate challenges even if they don't know the solutions to them. I feel it is the responsibility of my elected Board of Education members to determine the education curriculum, policies and procedures needed to educate the children of Danbury and Connecticut.

The State of Connecticut does not need and should not use more Charter Schools to educate the students of Connecticut. It is the tax dollars; Federal, State and Local which pay for public education. As such, we as taxpayers should have the right to oversight and transparency of who has the jurisdiction and authority to run our school systems. The State of Connecticut should fund schools that have the oversight of public officials which are elected by the voters in the State of Connecticut. I do not want more of my tax dollars to go to pay for more non-profit businesses that claim they can provide a better education for the students of Connecticut.

Educating our youth has to be a priority, they are our future. I want a vote on who runs the schools which are funded by my tax dollars. I ask you again to oppose Raised Senate Bill 229.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Mary Consoli